



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SPORT FISHERMEN TOTAL ALMOST TWENTY MILLION IN FIFTY STATES

During 1959 a total of 19,914,021 fishermen in fifty States purchased one or more licenses to fish, the Department of the Interior reported today. This is a slight decline of 1.3% from the number of fishermen reported for the States during 1958.

Fishermen in 50 States spent a total of \$50,374,832 for fishing licenses, tags, permits, and stamps required by State fish and game departments to legally fish for sport or recreation. During 1958 sport fishermen spent \$45,410,462 for the same purposes. Expenditures for 1959 exceeded those for 1958 by \$4,964,370.

Examination of certified data for 1959 indicates that the number of persons buying one or more licenses to fish for sport or recreation varies from year to year. The number of licenses sold is influenced by types of licenses available to fishermen, weather conditions, the relative abundance of fish and other factors. The attached table shows the number of paid fishing license holders as certified by 50 State fish and game departments for 1959.

Some State fish and game departments require sportsmen to purchase separate licenses, tags, permits or stamps for fishing different species of fish as well as for fishing in different areas. Other States issue only one fishing license which is good for all species of legal fish. Thus, the total number of tags, licenses, permits or stamps sold is not an accurate reflection of the number of persons holding paid licenses to fish.

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SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS,
LICENSE SALES AND THE COST TO FISHERMEN
FISCAL YEAR 1959

States	Paid Fishing License Holders <u>1/</u>	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued <u>2/</u>	Gross Cost to Fishermen
Alabama	511,882	519,717	\$ 784,548.30
Alaska	31,886	51,990	127,388.94
Arizona	205,895	210,180	567,514.00
Arkansas	489,729	489,729	1,205,713.55
California	1,475,977	3,407,196	6,230,229.31
Colorado	406,130	406,130	1,458,737.50
Connecticut	109,018	109,072	418,032.89
Delaware	11,524	11,960	22,395.60
Florida	495,333	521,180	1,052,795.50
Georgia	500,565	515,758	669,217.25
Hawaii	2,383	2,383	5,116.00
Idaho	244,570	244,828	948,750.00
Illinois	699,300	699,300	1,512,636.25
Indiana	742,131	746,012	1,047,068.25
Iowa	400,447	383,301	753,024.87
Kansas	254,715	254,720	522,456.75
Kentucky	402,393	402,393	969,836.85
Louisiana	192,290	192,290	259,106.00
Maine	218,226	220,008	781,088.62
Maryland	95,765	97,323	330,155.75
Massachusetts	226,305	227,642	648,888.88
Michigan	1,056,462	1,259,034	3,072,276.00
Minnesota	1,238,250	1,409,751	2,110,002.15
Mississippi	264,144	273,419	559,782.12
Missouri	665,819	794,700	1,815,826.75
Montana	232,731	232,731	493,728.50
Nebraska	191,979	228,442	454,815.00
Nevada	58,164	59,026	253,175.50
New Hampshire	134,118	134,297	439,959.04
New Jersey	153,608	239,349	602,429.90
New Mexico	143,075	143,075	541,987.40
New York	783,362	980,511	2,205,416.75
North Carolina	400,495	475,812	862,562.75
North Dakota	87,304	87,304	93,752.00
Ohio	838,708	875,766	1,208,197.50
Oklahoma	469,638	469,638	1,047,524.50
Oregon	325,278	403,438	1,240,599.75
Pennsylvania	629,635	647,314	2,132,285.00
Rhode Island	15,717	21,942	52,977.87
South Carolina	278,079	280,244	540,752.70
South Dakota	138,893	138,988	264,056.00
Tennessee	791,393	885,132	1,137,190.50
Texas	825,793	825,793	1,776,195.19
Utah	190,960	195,036	558,881.47
Vermont	111,795	111,795	266,246.25
Virginia	403,245	558,554	735,635.00
Washington	366,366	366,366	1,561,239.87
West Virginia	207,899	249,289	455,187.65
Wisconsin	1,032,463	1,032,480	3,051,755.00
Wyoming	162,184	189,383	525,693.00
Totals	19,914,021	22,861,880	\$50,374,832.17

1/ A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses purchased. Data certified by State fish and game departments.

2/ Period covered not identical to period covered by certification for all States.

Compiled from information furnished by State fish and game departments.